

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Office of the Secretary
Washington DC 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 6230.3
BUMED-02C
16 November 1994

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 6230.3

From: Secretary of the Navy
To: All Ships and Stations

Subj: BIOLOGICAL WARFARE DEFENSE
IMMUNIZATIONS

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 6205.3 of 26 Nov 93
(NOTAL)
(b) DoD Instruction 6205.2 of 9 Oct 86
(NOTAL)
(c) NAVMEDCOMINST 6230.3 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To establish Department of the Navy (DON) policy and assign responsibilities for biological warfare defense immunizations per reference (a).

2. Applicability. Applies to all commands and components of DON.

3. Background. The Secretary of Defense established policy, assigned responsibilities and prescribed procedures for members of the Department of Defense (DoD) against validated biological warfare threats under reference (a). References (b) and (c) provide vaccination guidance for naturally occurring endemic disease threats.

4. Definitions

a. Validated Biological Warfare Threat Agent. A biological warfare threat agent that is validated as a threat to DoD personnel by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), in consultation with the commanders of the Unified and Specified Commands; the Chiefs of the Military Services; and the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA).

b. Vaccine. A preparation that contains one or more components of a biological agent or toxin, and induces immune response against that agent when administered to an individual.

c. High-Threat Area. A geographical area in the proximity of a nation or nations considered to pose a potential biological threat to DoD personnel by the CJCS in consultation with the commanders of the Unified Commands and the Director, DIA.

d. Immunization. The process of rendering an individual immune. Immunization refers to the administration of a vaccine to stimulate the immune system to produce an immune response (active immunization). That process may require weeks to months and administration of multiple doses of vaccine.

4. Policy. The following personnel, subject to special exceptions approved by CJCS, should be immunized against validated biological warfare threat agents, for which suitable vaccines are available, in sufficient time to develop immunity before deployment to high-threat areas:

- a. Personnel assigned to high-threat areas.
- b. Personnel predesignated for immediate contingency deployment.
- c. Personnel identified and scheduled for deployment on an imminent or ongoing contingency operation to a high-threat area.

5. Responsibilities

a. Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASN(M&RA)) monitors, evaluates and documents the DON implementation of the DoD Immunization Program for Biological Warfare Defense.

b. Surgeon General of the Navy programs and budgets for the required vaccinations for members of the Navy and provides the DoD Executive Agent, the Secretary of the Army, with projected program requirements.

c. Commandant of the Marine Corps programs and budgets for the required vaccinations for members of the Marine Corps and provides the DoD Executive Agent, the Secretary of the Army, with projected program requirements.

d. Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) transmits the instructions of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs about biological warfare defense to subordinate units through established directives such as reference (c). BUMED also establishes procedures for coordinating and



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reporting the following information to the DoD Executive Agent, the Secretary of the Army:

(1) The identification, reporting, and epidemiologic evaluation of vaccine-associated adverse reactions, per Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements.

(2) The collection and forwarding of data required by the DoD Executive Agent needed to meet requirements of the FDA for products that are in Investigational New Drug (IND) status.

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